

# MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

## Success Stories from the Field

### **GlasCraft, Inc.**

#### **Indiana MEP - Purdue Technical Assistance Program**

#### **GlasCraft, Inc. Improves Manufacturing Process with Assistance from TAP**

##### **Client Profile:**

GlasCraft is a leading designer and manufacturer of advanced application equipment for the fiberglass composites, foam, and coatings industries. The company employs 78 people at its facility in Indianapolis, Indiana.

##### **Situation:**

GlasCraft had already implemented Lean manufacturing as a means of encouraging expansion and supporting growth of its business. However, they were looking to improve their Lean manufacturing practices with more process improvements and increased employee empowerment within its production processes. The company contacted the Purdue Technical Assistance Program (TAP), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for help.

##### **Solution:**

TAP provided GlasCraft with a systematic approach to expanding its Lean manufacturing initiative with specific training on Lean techniques. TAP then helped the company with implementation by conducting targeted Kaizen events and directing GlasCraft to state training grants. As a result of TAP's assistance, GlasCraft was able to reduce on-site inventory and work with its vendor base to create a steadier flow of product. As a result of moving to a cellular manufacturing process, within 12 months the company was able to reduce standard cycle times from 15 days to less than 5.

##### **Results:**

- \* Increased sales by \$3 million.
- \* Realized \$100,000 in cost savings.

##### **Testimonial:**

"The biggest piece in this project was the empowerment of those employees on the floor. We're blowing away our quotas. We couldn't have done this without the Purdue Technical Assistance Program."

Neil Crebbe, Director, Manufacturing and Production Processes